

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5225

INFO AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

CINCPAC UNN

HICOMTERPACIS UNN

UNCLAS USUN 6999

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PBOR, NH

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION OF NEW HEBRIDES GROUP

REF: SUVA 1544

1. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "NA-GRIAMEL FEDERATION" STOPPED BY USUN UNANNOUNCED ON DECEMBER 30 AND LEFT COPY OF FEDERATION'S "PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE." THE REPRESENTATIVES WERE: CHIEF JAMES GARAE AND CHIEF TIMOTHY WELLES. THROUGH A FIJIAN INTERPRETER, OSEA GAVIDI, THE CHIEFS SAID THEY WERE REPRESENTING "PRESIDENT JIMMY MOLLY STEVEN".

2. EARLIER THE HEBRIDES PARTY HAD ATTEMPTED TO SEE WALDHEIM AND WERE IN FACT RECEIVED BY A MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIAL OF THE LEGAL ADVISOR'S OFFICE, BLAINE SLOAN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SLOAN MADE DISCOURAGING REPLIES WHEN THE CHIEFS ASKED WHETHER THE FEDERATION MIGHT APPROPRIATELY APPLY FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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UN MEMBERSHIP.

3. IN SPEAKING TO USUN OFFICER, THE CHIEFS SAID THEIRS WAS A POOR COMMUNITY WHICH NEEDED HELP AND WOULD ACCEPT IT FROM ANY QUARTER. THE FEDERATION HAD DECIDED TO ADOPT A FLAG SHOWING TWO CLASPED HANDS THAT WOULD SYMBOLIZE THE HEBRIDIAN DESIRE FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL. THE PARTY DECLARED ITS INTENTION TO PROCEED TO WASHINGTON IN NEXT DAY OR TWO. THEY DID NOT ASK FOR APPOINTMENTS OR ASSISTANCE. THEY SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO STOP AT USUN IN AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 31 TO PRESENT A FEDERATION FLAG. MISSION OFFICER SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO ASK GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO ACCEPT FLAG. HE SUGGESTED THEY TELEPHONE BEFORE COMING BY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT WHILE GROUP'S COURTESY IN PROVIDING COPY OF PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE WAS APPRECIATED, HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO MAKE ANY RESPONSE ON BEHALF OF THE USG AND WOULD NOT WISH PERSONAL COURTESY TO BE PERCEIVED AS SYMBOLIC ACTION ON BEHALF OF USG. PER TELCON, USUN WILL AS COURTESY INFORM HEBRIDIAN, IF THEY PERSIST, THAT IT DOES NOT APPEAR APPROPRIATE TO ACCEPT FLAG.

4. USUN HAS COURTEOUSLY PROVIDED COPIES OF PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE TO BRITISH AND FRENCH MISSIONS HERE AND INFORMED THEM OF ENCOUNTER.

5. TEXT OF PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE NA-GRIAMEL FEDERATION

WE, THE PEOPLE OF THE VARIOUS NEW HEBRIDES ISLANDS, DO HEREBY DECLARE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION NUMBER 1514, OF 14 DECEMBER, 1960, OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY.

OUR ISLANDS WERE NEVER UNDER SOVEREIGNTY OF ANY OTHER NATION, AND WE WERE NEVER A COLONY OF ANY NATION.

THE AUTHORITY FOR OUR ACTION COMES NOT ONLY FROM UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTION NUMBER 1514 BUT, ALSO, FROM THE DEMAND BY OUR PEOPLES FOR INDEPENDENCE. WE CAN PROVIDE AUTHENTIC UNCLASSIFIED

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RESULTS OF A POLL TAKEN RECENTLY, WHICH WE OFFER TO ANY NEUTRAL NATION FOR INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION.

OUR NEW NATION IS A FEDERATION OF SETTLEMENTS AND THE GOVERNMENT IS ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH FAIR DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES. WE ARE DEDICATED TO THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF ALL INDIVIDUALS, REGARDLESS OF RACE, CREED OR RELIGION. THESE RIGHTS AND INDIVIDUAL BELONGINGS SHALL BE FULLY

PROTECTED AND DEFENDED.

OUR BOUNDARIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. ALL OF THE ISLAND OF SANTO, EXCEPTING LUGANVILLE, UNLESS IT WISHES TO JOIN US.
2. ALL OF THE ISLANDS SURROUNDING SANTO, INCLUDING AORE, MALO, AOBA, MAEWO AND SAKAU.
3. ALL OF THE ISLANDS IN THE BANKS AND TORRES GROUPS OF THE NEW HEBRIDES.
4. ANY OTHER SETTLEMENTS IN THE NEW HEBRIDES WISHING TO JOIN US AND ENJOY THE RIGHTS AS FREE AND INDEPENDENT PEOPLE.

WE ARE FIRM IN OUR BELIEF THAT THE RACES OF THE WORLD SHOULD COOPERATE AND THAT ALL PEOPLE SHOULD LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY. AND, FOR THIS REASON, OUR MOTTO INCLUDES NOT ONLY OUR TRADITIONAL NA-GRIAMEL SIGN BUT, ALSO, A HANDSHAKE BETWEEN PEOPLE OF ALL RACES. THIS MOTTO IS NOW ON OUR FLAG AND SHALL BE PLACED ON ALL OF OUR OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

OUR NEW NATION SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE NA-GRIAMEL FEDERATION, AND OUR INDEPENDENCE IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. WE EXTEND GREETINGS TO ALL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

DATED 27 DECEMBER, 1975
SANTO, NEW HEBRIDES

BY AUTHORITY OF THE NA-GRIAMEL FEDERATION UPPER COUNCIL
PRESIDENT JIMMY MOLY STEVENS UNQUOTE
MOYNIHAN

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